

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 46-49 remain in the application. Independent claims 1 and 47 have been amended to define the invention more clearly.

The Examiner objected to the abstract because the abstract did not commence on a separate sheet in accordance to 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract was required.

This amendment is accompanied by an abstract presented on a separate page. The Examiner is requested to enter this abstract into the record.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 47-49 were rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting in view of claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10 and 26 all now recite the limitation that the axis of the propeller is between 0.6° and 60° with respect to the longitudinal axis of the manifold. This limitation has support in the paragraphs of the specification bridging pages 7 and 8 and in FIG. 7 of the application. Additionally, claims 1-3, 5, 7-10 and 26 all recite an elongated blade root that substantially follows the longitudinal axis of the pin. It is submitted that these features are not present in any of claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959, and in fact are not suggested anywhere in the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959.

Claims 47-49 all positively recite that the length of the blade root along the pin is greater than a distance measured transverse to the pin from the pin to a tip of the blade edge. Once again, this feature of the invention is not recited in any of claims 1-7

of U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959 and is not suggested anywhere in the entire disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959. Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting should be removed.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 47-49 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959. As noted above, claims 1-3, 5, 7-10 and 26 now all positively recite that the axis of the propeller is between 0.6° and 60° with respect to the longitudinal axis of the manifolds. The applicant's earlier U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959 has no suggestion of this aspect of the invention. Additionally, amended claim 3 and amended claims 47-49 all define the length of the blade root measured along the pin as being greater than a distance measured transverse to the axis of the pin from the pin to a tip of the blade. The applicant's early U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959 has no suggestion of this feature of the invention. Accordingly, it is submitted that the invention defined by the amended claims herein is not taught or suggested by the applicant's earlier U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 47-49 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 02/086304. The WO 02/086304 reference corresponds to the above-described U.S. Patent No. 7,171,959 of the applicant herein. For the reasons stated above, it is submitted that the invention defined by amended claims is not taught or suggested by WO 02/0866304. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 USC 102(b) based on the applicant's earlier WIPO publication should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 46 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,059,082 to McCauley.

McCauley is directed to a device with a fan, a heating element and mesh arranged to agitate a fuel/air mixture passing from the carburetor to the fuel inlet manifold so that the fuel/air mixture is mixed thoroughly prior to entering the fuel/inlet manifold. The device of McCauley is not driven by an external means, such as a motor, but rather is arranged to rotate due to forces exerted by the fuel passing through the device. In contrast, the invention defined by claim 1 includes "a propeller connected to a power supply for driving the propeller". Additionally, the invention defined by amended claim 1 defines the axis of the propeller as being between 0.6° and 60° with respect to the longitudinal axis of the manifold. Furthermore, the propeller has a longitudinal pin defining a rotation axis and at least one blade attached to the pin by means of an elongated blade root with substantially follows the longitudinal axis of the pin. Claim 3 further defines the length of the blade root measured along the pin as being greater than a distance measured transverse to the axis of the pin from the pin to the blade tip. McCauley does not suggest any of these aspects of the invention. Accordingly, the invention defined by amended independent claim 1 and its dependent claims is not taught or suggested by McCauley.

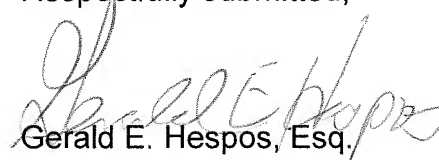
Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 46 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,614,322 to Smith.

Smith relates to carburetor with a spiral configuration. The carburetor has an air inlet at the mouth of the spiral. As air flows into the carburetor, fuel is added via an opening downstream of the air inlet. The fuel/air mixture is arranged to flow to the center of the spiral. This whirling action produced by the spiral configuration assists mixing the air and the fuel. The mixture then descends through an aperture and to a

chamber containing a fan. The fan is arranged to rotate to cause a thorough mixing of the air and fuel. The fan is driven by a motor mounted on the carburetor. The air and fuel then pass from the chamber through a further chamber and into a screen mesh from which they pass to the fuel inlet manifold. Smith has no suggestion of a regulator where the axis of the propeller is between 0.6° and 60° with respect to the longitudinal axis of the manifold. Smith also does not suggest a regulator where the blade is attached to the pin by means of an elongated blade root that substantially follows the longitudinal axis of the pin. Furthermore, Smith has no suggestion of the claim 3 limitation that the length of the blade root measured along the pin is greater than the distance measured transverse to the pin axis from the pin to the blade tip. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 26 and 46 are not taught or suggested by Smith.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the claims remaining in the application are directed to patentable subject matter, and allowance is solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact applicant's attorney at the number below to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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